

Hello registrant of the 2019 Minnesota –Dakota Chapters Joint Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society,

Chapter presidents Paul Glander (MN) and Josh Wert (Dakota) are happy you have registered to attend the Fisheries in a Connected World meeting in Fargo and look forward to your participation. We have over 50 presenters and more than 40 posters this year as attendance is close to the 300 mark. This should be a great meeting!

A “Schedule at a Glance” is attached for your easy reference on times and rooms but here are some highlights and reminder notes. The Abstract Book for presentations and posters is also attached. **Please note that only a limited number of printed copied of the Abstract Book will be available at the meeting. So please print or download your copy for personal use.** Both the Schedule and the Abstract Book are also available online at [MN AFS Chapter Annual Meeting](#) and [Dakota Chapter Annual Meeting](#).

Registration opens at noon on Monday, Feb 25. Please check-in and get your name tag. If you need to pay onsite, we can handle cash or check only. (Sorry, we don't have the ability to run cards on-site). You may still pay through PayPal up to Sunday night- if you registered by the early-bird deadline, you will be refunded the \$10 late fee.

Most meals are provided onsite to make your outdoors time optional. Monday's Welcome Reception at 7 pm is the exception as only hearty snacks will be provided. If you are a student and can attend the Student Social from 5 to 7 pm, you will be provided dinner.

Tuesday, Feb 26 starts with the Welcome, Membership, and Plenary session at 8:30 am. We have two great speakers who will talk about river connectivity: William Rice, USFWS and Luther Aadland, MNDNR. Please think of some questions for them so we can have an enlightening Q&A session when they have finished their talks.

Concurrent Sessions run from 1 to 4 pm on Tuesday and 8:20 am to noon on Wednesday. **Chapter business meetings are scheduled from 4 to 5 pm on Tuesday. We're always happy to have members join us for the first time- it's a great way to become more involved and connect with leadership.**

The Banquet Wednesday night will be a sit-down dinner with a brief update from Jeff Kopaska from the North Central Division of AFS. Awards will also be presented by both Chapters- and of course, please bring your expendable cash to part with for the raffles. These raffles benefit our student subunits through funding and scholarships as well as help reduce meeting costs. We do have a special edition t-shirt for the Joint meeting, too.

If you are presenting a paper or poster, here's how to get ready. For presenters, please load your presentation in your assigned room by meeting with the moderator prior to the session start. Preferably, posters should be hung on Monday in the Royale Room from 3 to 5 pm or on Tuesday during breakfast before 8:30 am. There will also be an opportunity to post during lunch on Tuesday. Joel Hoffman is coordinating posters and will leave a numbered key in the Royale with assigned locations for each poster.

The Executive Committees and all the great people that have made this meeting possible look forward to seeing you there. Fingers crossed for good travel weather!

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